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P A P E R

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M A N U F A C T U R E S.

MANUFACTURES.

In consequence of information received many years since, that a strong Cloth was made in Sweden from Hop-binds, a Premium was offered by the Society for preparing that material, hitherto a refuse one, and manufacturing it into Thread and Cloth in these kingdoms. At length the object has been accomplished; and a claim being this year made, and proper samples and certificates produced, the Premium, TWENTY POUNDS, was adjudged to Mr. JOHN LOCKETT, whose account of the manner of manufacturing the Hop-binds is contained in the following Letters.

SIR,

I HEREWITH send to the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, a piece of Cloth made from Hop-stalks, in claim of the
premium

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premium for that article : the cloth would have been evener, if time had permitted me to have examined the material, and the proper mode of preparing it.

I am, SIR,

Your humble fervant,

JOHN LOCKETT,

Manufacturer of Linen and Cotton.

*Dennington, near Newbury, Berks,
December 12th, 1790.*

Mr. MORE.

SIR,

AGREEABLE to the request of the Gentlemen of the Committee of Manufactures, I have sent my method of working the Hop-stalks, though far from thinking it perfect: they were cut in lengths, of about two or three feet; put into a furnace, in which was some lie that I had boiled linen in for bleaching; then boiled, till the rind separated from
the

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from the stalk easily. When cool, they stript so freely, that children might do it; and the yield was great, in proportion to the quantity of stalks. I then followed the same method as in working hemp or flax; but I find it much more stubborn than either, therefore not so well adapted for fine cloth; and the fibres are so united with such an adherent matter, that they do not easily separate; but for sacks, cordage, &c. it may be of great service.

I had some of it hackled while it was wet, soon after taken off; but it did not separate the fibres. Carding seems to work it best, and make it like cotton. Of the piece of cloth I have sent, the warp is hackled, and the woof carded. I am now going to prepare some more, and will send you some of it in its different states, which will be a proof that what I have sent is really from Hop-stalks; but if that should not be a sufficient proof, I will send the deposition of the persons who wrought it: the colour

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of

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of it is natural, and it is so impregnated with it, that I believe it will not bleach without great difficulty, which I intend to try this spring.

The liquor the stalks were boiled in, was so strongly coloured, that I thought it might be of some use in dying. I have now written the little I know about Hop-stalks; and am ready to answer any questions, to the best of my knowledge.

I am, SIR,

Your humble servant,

JOHN LOCKETT.

I cannot well ascertain the price, but think about eight-pence per yard.

*Donnington,
Jan. 30th, 1791.*

Mr. MORE.

WE the undersigned, William Harris,
of the tithing of Donnington, in
the parish of Shaw, in the county of Berks,
flax-

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flax-dresser, and Mathew Deale, of the same place, weaver, servants and workmen of Frederick Cowslad, of Donnington, aforesaid, Esq. under the direction and inspection of John Lockett, of the same place, linen-manufacturer and draper, do make oath and say,

That during the months of October, November, and December last, they (with others) peeled the rind off a quantity of Hop-Vines at Donnington aforesaid; having first boiled the same for that purpose, and afterwards dressed it in the manner of flax; which Hop-Vines were afterwards spun into thread, by divers persons, in the said tithing of Donnington, who these deponents daily saw at work thereon, until the same was fit to be put into the loom.

And this deponent, the said Mathew Deale, maketh oath, that he did afterwards weave the said thread, so made of Hop-Vines, into a piece of cloth, of the colour of tanned

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leather, which the said Mathew Deale afterwards delivered with his own hands to the carrier in Newbury, in order to be conveyed to the Honourable Society established for the encouragement of Arts and Sciences.

And both these deponents make oath, and say, that the said piece of cloth, containing twenty-five yards in length, was daily seen by them, while spinning; and also in each other's hands, and that it was made wholly of Hop-Vines, without any mixture or composition whatsoever, and without any fraud or evil practice, with a view to obtain the bounty offered by the said Society.

WILLIAM HARRIS.

MATTHEW DEALE.

Sworn before me, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Berks, the 17th day of February, 1791.

C. DUNDASS.